

Message Text

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20

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 SCA-01 ISO-00 PER-05 /007 W

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R 170600Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4267

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 3633

FOR VISA OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PK

SUBJ: ISSUANCE OF IMMIGRANT VISAS AT ISLAMABAD

REF: 22 CFR 42.120

1. REQUEST THAT EMBASSY BE DESIGNATED AS A CONSULAR OFFICE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE IMMIGRANT VISAS AND PERMITTED TO COMMENCE ISSUANCE AS SOON AS PRACTICAL, BASED ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT RESIDENTS OF THE ISLAMABAD AND PESHAWAR CONSULAR DISTRICTS, WHO NOW RECEIVE IVS FROM LAHORE AND KARACHI CONGENS, WOULD BE SERVICED HERE, AT THE PROBABLE RATE OF 15 TO 20 PER MONTH.

2. JUSTIFICATION: LAHORE AND KARACHI CONGENS NOW ISSUE APPROXIMATELY 18 (EIGHTEEN) IVS PER MONTH (LAHORE 16, KARACHI 2) TO RESIDENTS OF ISLAMABAD AND PESHAWAR CONSULAR DISTRICTS. IN SOME MONTHS, LAHORE'S IV WORKLOAD MAY BE INCREASED BY 30 PERCENT BY APPLICANTS FROM THESE DISTRICTS. POST CONSIDERS THAT AUTHORIZATION TO ISLAMABAD WOULD PERMIT A MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF WORKLOADS BETWEEN THE SINGLE CONSULAR OFFICERS AT EACH POST, AS WELL AS PROVIDING EXPERIENCE IN AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS TO THE ISLAMABAD CONSULAR OFFICER, WHO IS USUALLY WORKING IN HIS FIRST CONSULAR ASSIGNMENT. IN ADDITION,
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DESIGNATION OF ISLAMABAD AS AN IV ISSUING POST WOULD

RESULT IN APPRECIABLE SAVINGS IN MONEY FOR APPLICANTS
AS PRESENT SITUATION NOW DEMANDS THAT THEY TRAVEL
FOLLOWING DISTANCES:
ISLAMABAD TO LAHORE - 180 MILES
ISLAMABAD TO KARACHI - 1030 MILES
PESHAWAR TO LAHORE - 285 MILES
PESHAWAR TO KARACHI - 1135 MILES

3. PROVIDING THAT AUTHORIZATION IS GRANTED, REQUEST ADVISE
AND PROVISION OF MATERIALS FOR IMPLEMENTING PROGRAM.

4. WHILE INCUMBENT CONSULAR OFFICER HAS ONLY LIMITED
EXPERIENCE WITH IV WORK, CONSULAR ADVISOR FSL-2 HAMID
ASGHAR, THE ONLY FSL IN SECTION, HAD TWO YEARS IV
EXPERIENCE AT LAHORE CONGEN. POST EXPECTS THAT PRESENT
STAFFING WOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR INSTITUTING IV WORK.
BYROADE

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